CLAIMS

1. A method for providing device information using a Fibre Channel network, comprising the operations of:

obtaining device information for a device coupled to a Fibre Channel based network;

constructing an address database having a device entry for the device, wherein the device entry includes a port target identifier and a logical unit identifier, and wherein the device entry associates the device information with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier;

receiving a request for the device information, wherein the request includes the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier; and

returning the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the device entry further associates an Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (AL_PA) with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

3. A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the operation of returning the AL_PA associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier in response to the request.

4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Protocol Auto Configuration (PAC) command.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Probe command.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the operation of performing a lookup operation to obtain the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier utilizing the address database.

7. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the device information includes a device type for the device.

8. A system for providing device information using a Fibre Channel network, comprising:

a Fibre Channel based network;

a device coupled to the Fibre Channel based network, the device having an associated Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (AL_PA); and

an address database having a device entry for the device, wherein the device entry includes a port target identifier and a logical unit identifier associated with the device, and wherein the device entry associates device information with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

9. A system as recited in claim 8, wherein the device entry further associates the AL_PA with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

10. A system as recited in claim 8, further comprising a Fibre Channel driver having a Fibre Channel Common Hardware Interface (FCHIM).

11. A system as recited in claim 10, further comprising a SCSI based application in communication with the Fibre Channel driver.

12. A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the SCSI based application passes a request for device information to the Fibre Channel driver, the request including the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

13. A system as recited in claim 12, wherein the Fibre Channel driver returns the device information based on the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier using the address database.

14. A computer program that provides device information using a Fibre Channel network, comprising:

a code segment that obtains device information for a device coupled to a Fibre Channel based network;

a code segment that constructs an address database having a device entry for the device, wherein the device entry includes a port target identifier and a logical unit identifier, and wherein the device entry associates the device information with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier;

a code segment that receives a request for the device information, wherein the request includes the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier; and

a code segment that returns the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

15. A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the device entry further associates an Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (AL_PA) with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

16. A computer program as recited in claim 15, further comprising a code segment that returns the AL_PA associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

17. A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Protocol Auto Configuration (PAC) command.

18. A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Probe command.

19. A computer program as recited in claim 14, further comprising a code segment that utilizes the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier to lookup the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

20. A computer program as recited in claim 19, wherein the device information includes a device type for the device.